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JPRS-TEP-84-018

29 June 1984

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Distribution Unlimited

Worldwide Report

EPIDEMIOLOGY

19980305 165

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29 June 1984

WORLDWIDE REPORT

EPIDEMIOLOGY

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ANGOLA

VACCINATIONS AGAINST ENDEMIC DISEASES

Luanda DIARIO DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 3

[Text] The Provincial Health Delegation is undergoing an intense fight against endemic disease, namely tuberculosis, leprosy and trypanosomiasis.

In the municipalities of Damba, Makela do Zombo, Songo, Negage, Bungo and Kitexe, 50,000 persons will be vaccinated against tuberculosis and leprosy.

In Bembe, Songo, and Makela do Zombo, 142,224 people with sleeping sickness (trypanosomiasis) will be treated and 30,200 children will be vaccinated against several endemic diseases.

In order to assure the eradication of these diseases, the delegation is promoting the construction of 9,000 latrines and public garbage disposal areas in the municipalities.

This information is included in the 1984 program of activities of the Provincial Health Delegation in Uige, that foresees the re-supplying of hospitals and health offices.

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CSO: 5400/133

PAPERS REPORT ASPECTS OF CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

Situation Deteriorates

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 28 Apr 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] Faridpur, Apr 27--Cholera situation in the district has further deteriorated and deaths of 250 persons were reported so far in the last three weeks.

The Civil Surgeon has also confirmed the death of 250 persons in three weeks till date in the eight upazilas of the district. At least another 4,000 persons have been attacked with the disease during the time. According to unofficial sources the number of casualties is much higher.

The most affected areas are Sadarpur, Boalkhali and Alfadanga upazilas. Upazila officials say scarcity of pure drinking water and necessary medicines is the main cause of such alarming spread of cholera and loss of lives. The area is also facing severe drought.

The situation in Alphasdanga is beyond description. There is no hospital, nor any doctor in the area. Common preventive and curative medicines are also not available.

Development works in the upazila have come to a standstill. The labourers, in some cases even the government officials, have left for safe areas. The Nirbahi Officer himself is also planning to shift his family for safety.

The UNO said a bag of saline is being sold at Taka 100 to 120 and a pack of ORS at Taka 25 to 30. But such high price also does not ensure availability.

The district administration has been accused of gross indifference in taking necessary steps to cope with the situation.

Deaths Attributed to Diarrhea

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 May 84 p 1

[Text] Jessore, May 6--Cholera that has broken out in an epidemic form has claimed 375 lives in four districts during the last 20 days.

Over 4,000 persons were attacked and the disease is spreading with each passing day.

Officials admitted 400 deaths, but attributed their causes to diarrhea.

Reports reaching Jessore said that 150 persons died in Narail district, 125 in Magura, 50 in Jhenaidah and 20 in Jessore, of the disease during the last 20 days.

The worst affected upazilas are Lohagara in Narail and Mohammadpur in Magura.

The other affected upazilas are Kalia and Narail in Narail district, Srepur in Magura district and Kotwali and Abhuynagar in Jessore district.

Seven official medical teams and BRAC a non-government organisation are working in affected areas.

Prices of medicines have soared beyond the reach of those affected by the disease.

Information to Press Banned

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 7 May 84 pp 1, 8

[Text] Gastro-enteritis and cholera have broken out in an epidemic form in different parts of the country particularly in Jessore Faridpur, Barisal and Patuakhali.

The disease has already claimed the lives of a large number of people in the affected areas. No official confirmation was available in respect of death due to the disease or the exact number of people affected by it.

According to a report about 400 people have been admitted to the hospital and different health complexes alone in Khulna district recently. Of them 14 died.

A spokesman of the Health Ministry told this correspondent on Monday that the situation was being assessed. Medical tests are working in the affected zones. He could not give any figure of the people afflicted with diarrheal diseases nor any death caused by it. A spokesman was reluctant to disclose the measures taken by the Health Department to combat the disease.

With regard to the widespread prevalence of the diarrheal diseases in the country Doctor A.K. Azad Chowdhury of the Department of Pharmacy Dhaka University opined that dihydromethylquinolin is a specific drug to gastrointestinal

diarrhea. The drug has been banned under the drug policy. It is effective medicine against the diarrheal diseases which can effectively contain its prevalence he added. The only drug now available is metronidazol. This is effective in case of amoebic dysentery and has no effect on the diarrheal diseases another physician opined. The physician said that the use of oral saline in case of a cholera cannot cure the disease. It can only protect a patient from acute dehydration.

Meanwhile the authority has imposed a total ban on releasing any information in respect of cholera or diarrheal diseases to the newsmen. The ICDDRDB is also barred from disclosing its findings about diarrheal diseases to the newspapers. The ICDDRDB has been instructed to treat the information as classified.

CSO: 5450/0025

BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

CHICKENPOX OUTBREAK--Netrakona, April 28--Chickenpox has broken out in both rural and urban areas throughout the Netrakona district in an epidemic form. A large number of people of Netrakona Pourashava and in different upazilas of the district have been suffering from this disease. It is spreading in an alarming position causing much inconveniences to the people in general and the poor in particular. Infants and children are the worst sufferers. People alleged that, curative medicines were not available at local hospitals, rural health centres, charitable dispensaries and local markets. Even it is available, its price is beyond the capacity of the common people. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 29 Apr 84 p 2]

FARIDPUR GASTROENTERITIS--Faridpur, Apr 28--Forty-two persons died so far of Gastroenteritis in four upazilas of this district recently, reports BSS. According to an official source Gastroenteritis broke out in four unions of Sadarpur upazila where it claimed 22 lives out of 270 persons attacked. In Kotwali upazila 6 persons died in Bhanga upazila 6 died and in Alfadanga upazila 7 died. Besides two deaths were reported from Muksudpur upazila in Gopalganj district. The disease broke out in Faridpur Pourashava Area also. About one hundred patients received treatment in the local Sadar Hospital where one died. The official source said that curative measures mainly in the form of oral saline were taken by the Health Department. But want of sanitation, pure drinking water and primary health knowledge is the cause of this disease. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 30 Apr 84 p 1]

DISEASES AT UNIVERSITY--Diarrhea has broken out in the Meer Mosharraf Hossain Hall of Jahangirnagar University and many students of the university have been sent to the Mohakhali Cholera Hospital Dhaka for treatment. Chickenpox and measles have been broken out in Rangamati where the fourth class employees of Jahangirnagar University live and according to the statement of the inhabitants of Rangamati, no steps has yet been taken by the university authorities to check the spread of disease. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 May 84 p 3]

LOHAGARA DIARRHEA DEATHS--Noapara (Jessore) Apr 30--Diarrhea diseases claimed 25 lives in Lohagara upazila of Narail recently. The diseases spread in an epidemic form in the area and at least 395 persons have so far been attacked with the diseases. Of the total 205 patients were admitted to Laxmipasha hospital. A control room set up in Lohagara to take measures to combat the diseases confirmed the deaths. The affected areas are: Kalyanpur Kamarpargram,

Luburia Makrail, Shalnagar, Noagram, Shanukhola, Joypur, Lohagara, Luxmipur, Itna, Kumardanga, Talbaria and Kumri villages. The control room said, due to the absence of isolation ward in the hospital, patients are being in the ground floor. Shortage of doctors and nurses and other staff and scarcity of saline are the main obstacles to proper treatment of the patients. Meanwhile, vaccination drive has been launched and other preventive and remedial measures have been taken to combat the diseases. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 3 May 84 p 10]

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS CHOLERA DEATHS--Faridpur, April 13: About 100 persons died of cholera in three southern districts during the last fortnight. Of these 73 persons died in Faridpur, 20 in Madaripur and seven in Rajbari districts till Wednesday. Some 659 people are reported to have been suffering from acute intestinal infections according to local authority who has confirmed the death of 44 persons in Faridpur district alone. The most affected Upzilas of the district are Sadarpur, Boalmari, Alphadanga and Bhanga. District Control Room has confirmed 16 deaths and 318 fresh cases of infection in the Char Munai, Char Bishnupur, Bhasan Char and Dheoukhali Union Parishads of Sadarpur upazila alone. Scarcity of pure drinking water has been attributed as the cause of the epidemic. Saline and other necessary medicines are also said to be in short supply. Local health department says a total of 12 500 packets of ORS, 18 thousand tetracycline tablets and 800 units of saline have so far been distributed in the areas. The department also confirmed the death of 20 persons in Shibchar upazila of Madaripur and seven persons in Baliakadi upazila of Rajbari districts. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 14 Apr 84 pp 1, 7]

CSO: 5450/0011

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

AIDS VICTIM IN CARTAGENA--Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 19 May (EFE)--The first victim of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) had died in Cartagena, northern Colombia, according to police. The disease was fully confirmed. The victim was identified as Marlene Benavides Riobot, who had been under medical care at the University Hospital of Cartagena since January. Since January the woman has been given tests and treatment; the disease was confirmed by laboratory tests. A hospital spokesman told EFE that the woman had acquired AIDS through prostitution on board the ships that dock at the port. Authorities have therefore increased vigilance to prevent similar cases. [Text] [PA200257 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2207 GMT 19 May 84]

CSO: 5400/2072

GUYANA

BRIEFS

FILARIA SURVEY--The Ministry of Health and Public Welfare is seeking the co-operation of the public in a filaria detection exercise currently taking place in Georgetown. The Vector Control Division (Mosquito Control Service) of the Ministry is responsible for the exercise, aimed at establishing the prevalence of filaria in the City. As a major part of the survey, householders must be tested for traces of disease between 22:00 hours and midnight. The Ministry has given the assurance that households to be visited will be notified, in writing, well in advance and officers will carry Ministry of Health identification cards. At present, the Cummingsburg area is being covered and residents are asked to give their full co-operation. In soliciting the co-operation of householders, the Ministry gave the assurance that the exercise is aimed at promoting good health in Guyana. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 1 May 84 p 3]

CSO: 5440/005

BRIEFS

TRIPURA MYSTERY AILMENT--Agartala, April 30--Forty-four persons have died of a strange ailment, identified as "gastro-colitis," in different parts of Tripura in the last fortnight, according to an official release here. It quoted the State's Health Minister's, Mr Khagen Das, that the disease, which at one time tended to assume an epidemic proportion, had now been controlled. It denied local press reports that the disease had claimed 180 lives--PTI [Text]
[Madras THE HINDU in English 1 May 84 p 11]

CALACUTTA MALARIA STATISTICS--The number of persons afflicted with malaria in Calcutta in 1983 was more than the total number of malaria attacks in this city in the past three years. According to Calcutta Municipal Corporation's Health Department's statistics, 4,400 cases were recorded in 1980, 6,640 cases in 1981 and 6,750 cases in 1982. But in 1983 about 19,000 malaria attacks were registered. Health officials felt that the innumerable trenches dug by the Metro Rail, CMDA Eastern Railways and South Eastern Railways, construction of high rise building and the choked canals around the city were helping the breeding of mosquitoes and spread of the disease. [Text]
[Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Apr 84 p 3]

DYSENTERY IN ORISSA--(TOINS: Bhubaneswar)--At least 12 people are suspected to have died of bacillary dysentery in Orissa over the past one week, according to official reports received in Bhubaneswar on Wednesday. While the secretary to the health department, Mr K.B. Verma, confirmed the death of 12 people, he added that medical teams sent out to the affected districts had so far ascertained bacillary dysentery deaths only in two cases, both at Kendrapara in Cuttack district. Mr Verma said that even in normal times gastroenteritis deaths during this part of year were "not uncommon" in some districts where the disease usually took a toll of "a few lives." He did not rule out, at the same time, the possibility of the other ten deaths as a result of the current outbreak of the shigella (type I) bacillary dysentery in Cuttack, Puri, Koonjhar and Balasore districts. The state government, which feared an exodus of migrant labour from West Bengal, where the disease had taken a toll of over 1,450 so far, as well as the influx of a large number of tourist and pilgrims during the summer vacation from the neighbouring states, had already geared its health machinery. According to Mr Verma, as short-term measures, medical teams had been sent out to the affected districts for distribution of halogen tablets to help people disinfect the source of drinking-water. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 11 May 84 p 20]

SPENDING ON HEALTH TO BE CUT IN 1984-85 BUDGET

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 May 84 p 3

[Text]

The Ministry of Health is one of the big five expenditure Ministries. It ranks as No. 4 spender.

In 1984/85 it will spend, net of certain receipts, about \$240 million which is equivalent to \$7 dollars out of every \$100 spent by Government. Excluding the Ministry of Finance budget, \$14 approximately of every \$100 spent by the Government goes into Health.

The total recurrent expenditure allocation to the Health Ministry — excluding Bellevue and the Government Clinics is \$205 million — only \$10 million or 5% above last year.

This is minimal and involves a substantial reduction in the wage package paid to Health employees. The total wage package is projected to drop from \$114 million to \$113 million.

This either means less staff or everyone is to have a wage freeze.

There will be less money to pay to train nurses and midwives. Budgeted expenditure is down 20%. The wage bill for Laboratory Services is to be cut by 30%. Savanna-La-Mar and Black River Hospitals have 15% less to pay staff than last year whilst the other Montego Bay Regional (Cornwall Regional and Noel Holmes in Lucea) have a 5% reduced wage bill. The Kingston Region Hospitals (KPH, Victoria Jubilee, Bustamante Children's and Mona Rehab.) have to cut staff costs as well by 6%.

In summary, the financial outlook for the No. 4 Spending Ministry — Health — is bleak.

Staff cuts appear inevitable. Rationing of the use of utilities also appears unavoidable as the same amount is given to pay for utilities this year as was given last year, in spite of the large rate increases. It appears that the country cannot afford to maintain its Health Services on the existing virtually free of cost basis. The budget, on the face of it, appears to continue to provide all the traditional services but the funds allocated will not do so.

Expect a rapid and continued decline in Health Services for 1984/85!

SRV HELP IN SARAVANE MALARIA SUPPRESSION NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 14 Apr 84 p 2

[Article: "Malaria Suppression in Saravane Province"]

[Excerpt] The Saravane Public Health section sent cadres from the malaria section to look for and suppress malaria in production bases and also in various districts throughout Saravane. By receiving cooperation and sincere assistance from malaria experts from Quang Nam-Danang in the SRV, which has long been our beloved twin, and after struggling through difficulties, they accomplished their task in seven districts: Ta Oi, Duc Cheung, Lamam, Lao Ngam, Saravane, Kong Sedone, and Vapi. They took blood samples, looked for malaria, and also treated 2,676 people. They found malaria in 647 people or 23.18 percent [of the areas' population] (Pang Yai) in 674 people or 25.18 percent. They caught a total of 2,909 anopheles [mosquitoes], 980 larvae, and found 24 types of malaria carriers. The important ones are anopheles mosquitoes (Milimouda, Labasengsit, and Koulaphasiet). After finding malaria in these different localities, the Lao and Vietnamese doctors assessed the situation and separated the malaria region throughout Saravane Province into three different areas: first, an area of intense malaria outbreaks with four districts, Ta Oi, Duc Cheung, Kalum, and Lamam, and part of two districts on the plateau, Saravane District with two cantons and Lao Ngam District, with a population of 75,423; second, a medium-intense malaria region with three districts on the plateau, Toumlan, Lao Ngam, and Saravane, with a population of 58,205; and third, a region of mild malaria outbreaks with three flatland districts, Lakhonpheng, Vapi, and Kong Sedone, and one canton in Saravane District, where 80,701 people live. Once they found all the malaria throughout the province the public health section along with the Vietnamese experts have been looking for ways to prevent and eliminate malaria throughout the province in a timely manner in 1984 in order to reduce malaria in the population base and to be sure that cadres, military men and the people of ethnic groups throughout the province are healthy and strong with no sickness in order to defend and construct the prosperity of the country step by step.

9884

CSO: 5400/4417

LAOS

BRIEFS

VIENTIANE DISTRICT CHOLERA OUTBREAK--In early April there was an outbreak of cholera in Ban Nong Pen, Phon Hong Canton, Phon Hong District, Vientiane Province, which caused the loss of a number of people's lives. The Phon Hong District Public Health Committee, Vientiane Province, quickly sent medical cadres with a complete set of medicine to the base to give physical exams and to treat the cholera in Ban Nong Pen in a timely manner. After a short period of giving physical exams and actual treatment night and day, attentively carrying out their specialized task with great concern for the people's lives, the medical personnel were able to suppress the cholera outbreak, bringing things back to normal and resulting in happiness and deep gratitude to the higher echelons, especially to the revolutionary medical cadres who are always concerned with the working people's living in the production base. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 25 Apr 84 pp 1, 4] 9884

CSO: 5400/4417

ROUNDWORMS INFECT 82 PERCENT OF POPULATION

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 May 84 p 8

[Text] KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.--Eighty-two per cent of Malaysia's population is infected with roundworms, Pengguna, the monthly magazine of the Federation of Malaysian Consumer Associations (Fomca), says in its May/June issue.

Although it occurs at all ages, it is most common among children because they are more frequently exposed to contaminated soil.

"Of the 50 different species of intestinal parasites that infect human beings, the roundworm or ascaris is the most popular, infecting about one billion people and killing about 20,000 every year," the magazine says.

Other types of intestinal worms--whip-worms, hookworms, and tapeworms--also affect a very large part of the population.

Nutrients

Most parasitic intestinal infections are transmitted through food, water and direct contact. They are basically faecal-borne infections and flourish where sanitary facilities are lacking, water supply is deficient or absent and where there is ignorance about health and hygiene practices.

The presence of intestinal parasites causes malnutrition by affecting the lining of the intestines. The damage and changes in the intestinal lining results in poor absorption and assimilation of important nutrients.

The magazine says: "In addition, diarrhoea is a serious consequence of intestinal parasitic infections. During severe diarrhoea, nutrient absorption is impaired, with significant loss in protein, fat, water and electrolytes from tissues and intestines. This factor is a major contributor to infant mortality and retardation of growth in young children."

Among children, the effects gained from control may be in the form of weight gain, fewer absentees from school, greater alertness and improved academic performance.

In adults, work efficiency and less absenteeism are the direct effects of deworming.

BRIEFS

SARAWAK DENGUE FEVER--A spokesman for the Medical and Health Services in Kuching, state of Sarawak, reported on 5 June that three more new cases of dengue fever were found in Seria town. The number of dengue cases reported to date is 230. [Summary] [BK110426 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 5 Jun 84 BK1]

TYPHOID DEATH REPORTED--KUANTAN, Mon.--An eight-year-old child died of typhoid at the General Hospital here early this month. Le Wai Seng, from Jalan Wong Ah Jang, was admitted to May 7 and died the same day, State Medical and Health Services Department Deputy Director Dr P. J. Jacobs said today. He said that six other persons, including a child, had been admitted to the General Hospital here. Three of them were confirmed typhoid victims. Dr Jacobs said that the first typhoid case in the district--an eight-year-old from Jalan Haji Abdul Rahman--was reported on May 4 and the last, on May 17. He said that the victims were being treated and were recovering. [Text] [Penang THE STAR in English 29 May 84 p 5]

CSO: 5400/4428

MOZAMBIQUE

SPRAYING AGAINST MALARIA CONTINUES

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 28 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] The spraying campaign against malaria carrying insects being carried out in homes in Sofala by the Provincial Preventative Medicine Service of Sofala has been extended to the neighborhood of Esturro, now that the Munhava area has been completed.

The work is advancing normally in that neighborhood and the spraying will probably last a short period of time due to the small size of the neighborhood.

According to what Caetano Garrafa, MP technician and the man in charge of the work, told our reporter, we were able to fulfill our goals in a short time period in spite of problems caused by rains that recently fell in the city of Beira.

The same source added that in the Munhava zone there was ample participation on the part of political authorities.

After its conclusion in this town, the spraying will be done in the Marromeu district in the month of August. Workers from the Sena Sugar Estates will be trained to work on this project.

However, after the workers have been trained, the spraying will begin in the residential neighborhoods of the sugar plant as well as in some communal villages in the area.

Lastly, Caetano Garrafa told our reporter that a preliminary study to detect the existence of malaria was made in the above mentioned villages a short time ago by experts.

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CSO: 5400/133

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

MEASURES AGAINST MEASLES URGED--Kindly permit space in your widely-read newspaper to call on the Ministry of Health to please find a quick answer to an infectious disease called measles which has for some time now been plaguing the inhabitants of Ajegunle area of Lagos State. I am highly disturbed with the rate at which this dangerous disease is spreading in and around the area of Ajegunle. The most affected are the young children. Some of those affected parents preferred to go native, but the enlightened ones went to hospitals to get it treated. My worry is that if something is not done quickly, it might spread to other parts of the state and the country in general. I am, therefore, calling on the Lagos State Ministry of Health to please declare Ajegunle and its environs a measles disaster zone. The earlier this is done, the better. E. N. Okoro, Ajegunle. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 23 May 84 p 15]

CSO: 5400/136

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

CHOLERA CASES--MORE than 6 500 cases of cholera among Black people were notified to the Department of Health and Welfare last year, the Minister, Dr Nak van der Merwe, said. In written reply to a question from Dr Marius Barnard (PFP, Parktown) Dr Van der Merwe listed the number of cases of notifiable diseases which had occurred among each race group during 1983. Of the 6 813 cases of cholera, Dr Van der Merwe said, 6 557 had been among Blacks. The incidence was also highest among Blacks for tuberculosis (78 percent of 54 632 cases) malaria (93 per cent of 1 945 cases) and typhoid (97 percent of 5 133 cases). [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 6 Jun 84 p 4]

CSO: 5400/143

FOOT-AND-MOUTH VACCINE EFFECTIVE

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 29 May 84 No 102 p 2

[Text]

GABORONE, May 25: Botswana Foot and Mouth vaccines have been found to be highly effective in Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Mozambique and Swaziland.

This observation was made by the Assistant Minister of Agriculture, Mr G.U.S. Matlhabaphiri, in the House of Chiefs this morning.

Mr Matlhabaphiri was responding to a question from

Kgosi Motai who wanted to know whether he had any doubt about the Foot and Mouth vaccine, and if not, why he found it necessary to re-vaccinate cattle four months after the last vaccination.

Minister Matlhabaphiri explained that there were no doubts about the quality of the vaccine supplied by the Vaccine Institute, and that all batches were tested for potency and safety, and the results analysed

by the veterinary staff of the Diagnostic Laboratory.

He said that some diseases were controlled by vaccinations for long periods, while other diseases were prevented only by revaccination at frequent intervals.

The Minister stressed that the prevention of Foot and Mouth disease required twice yearly vaccination, thus the repeated vaccination was due to the nature of the disease and not to the poor quality of the vaccine.

Mr Matlhabaphiri also pointed out that there were other reasons for repeated vaccination.

The reasons included the fact that annual vaccination meant that large numbers of calves remained unvaccinated for long periods, and secondly that there were several major types of Foot and Mouth virus present in the sub-continent.

He explained that amongst these major types of Foot and Mouth disease, there were a large number of sub-types which were constantly being modified.

Mr Matlhabaphiri said that the vaccine was less effective against the new sub-types, and therefore new strains of vaccine had to be produced to match the new sub-types which were appearing.

He concluded thus: "Obviously we wish to protect cattle against any new sub-types as soon as reasonably possible and not wait a year." BOPA

BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

PALAPYE INFECTED WITH RABIES--Gaborone, April 19--The area lying within the radius of 10 kilometres of the Palapye Post Office has been declared infected with rabies. According to the Director of Veterinary Services, the owner of a dog above the age of four months should, immediately ensure that such a dog is inoculated against rabies by or under supervision of a veterinary officer. The Order which came into effect on April 6 does not apply to dogs which have been inoculated within 60 days immediately before the coming into operation of the Order. The Director of Veterinary Services advises owners of dogs in the infected area to ensure that their dogs are isolated or kept in a confined or enclosed area, or should be on a leash. Dogs which have not been isolated in accordance with the Order, "shall be deemed to have been in contact with or exposed to the disease of rabies and shall be destroyed," the Director further warns. No dogs shall be allowed to move in and out of the restricted area without the permission of the Director of Veterinary Services, the Order concludes. BOPA [Text] [Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 24 Apr 84 p 3]

CSO: 5400/138

EDITORIAL URGES MEASURES AGAINST ANIMAL DISEASES

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 27 May 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Preventive Measures Against Animal Diseases"]

[Text]

WE are now making energetic efforts to boost agricultural production not only for meeting domestic consumption needs but also for increasing exports.

Steps are now being taken not only to extend the cultivated area but also to increase the per acre yield. According to statistics released in 1982-83, the area put under various crops covered more than 25 million acres in the country.

Agricultural work in the country still depends to a large extent on the use of draught cattle. In this connection, the 1983-84 report to the Pyithu Hluttaw on the financial, economic and social conditions of the country mentioned that about 6.4 million head of draught cattle were employed in tilling the land and in other agricultural undertakings.

In order to help farmers raise good quality cattle, the Myanma Economic Bank disbursed loans amounting to K 9.6 million in 1982-83 and K 10 million in 1983-84 for the purchase of draught cattle.

Since draught cattle play a very important role in implementing the agricultural projects, the Livestock and Veterinary Department, on 22 May, issued a reminder to farmers to take preventive measures against foot-and-mouth disease for their draught cattle which are about to begin work in the fields.

The reminder states that in Burma, the foot-and-mouth disease occurs annually and it has been found that the outbreak of the disease has intensified from year to year. The disease breaks out in Burma mostly in May and August. As soon as the disease breaks out, the farmers have been reminded to report to the respective Party, People's Council, Peasants Asiayone and Livestock and Veterinary Department and to make united efforts to prevent the disease from spreading.

This reminder is timely as farmers have started working in the fields with the coming of the rains.

Our agricultural activities depend a great deal on climatic conditions and draught cattle. But farmers sometimes fail to heed the danger posed by the outbreak of animal diseases which could affect not only the health of the draught cattle but also the country's economy which is based on agriculture.

The outbreak of animal diseases causes delays in cultivation work, difficulties in hiring cattle, and delays in harvesting work and thus may bring about the decline in agricultural output.

We expect that the farmers will pay serious attention to the reminder issued by the organization concerned and take timely precautionary measures against the foot and mouth disease so that agricultural work will not be disrupted or delayed.

CSO: 5400/4426

RINDERPEST EPIDEMIC REPORTED IN DELHI

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 16 May 84 p 1

[Article by Sharima Naim]

[Text] At least 200 cattle of the Najafgarh block in west Delhi have already died of the dreaded rinderpest disease and hundreds more are breathing their last. Not a single dairy in this area has escaped the scourge.

Panic has spread in the area. The Delhi Administration veterinary doctors have now sat up. A frenzied vaccination drive has been launched. As the immunity periods starts a month after the vaccination, the exercise at this stage serves little purpose except conjuring statistics.

The worst hit is the Kaktola dairy. Here the people are so angry with the dairy dispensary doctor, Durga Das, that they were planning to ransack his dispensary on Wednesday. However, saner instincts prevailed and the dispensary is intact. Dr Durga Das puts the casualty figures at 27. But a visit around the dairy reveals that the number of dead is more than double. "If they do not come to me how will I register the cases", questions Dr Das. "But if I have to pay money, why shall I go to him. He could not even diagnose the disease for 20 days", said Prakash Devi who paid Rs 300 to an outside doctor.

Sitting in the now empty shed, Hardayal breaks down. He alone has lost 22 cattle since 19 April. The last cow of the shed dropped dead on Wednesday night and was removed in the morning. Of his 91 cattle only 69 are left, four of which already show symptoms of the disease.

Rinderpest, the malignant and contagious disease of cattle, often called the cattle plague, has not struck Delhi for the first time. Last year a terrible epidemic killing hundreds of cattle had broken out in the trans-Yamuna dairy farms of Khichripur and around.

"A viral disease, rinderpest has no cure, but has a preventive vaccine and symptomatic treatment", said Dr Durga Das. But according to

Hardayal all his cattle had been vaccinated last year. (The immunity period is three years). Charging that just one-fifth of the normal dose of the vaccine was used, making it ineffective, Hardayal said that only when Assistant Research Officer (Cattle) Dr S M Dayya visited the place on 9 May did the disease was have diagnosed. "I have been ruined for no fault of mine. The administration should compensate me", cried Hardayal.

Dr Das, however, insists that Hardayal must have got some new infected cattle. Denying the under-dose allegation, he charged the dairy owners with dodging vaccination in normal times. "They come only when the epidemic has broken out and expect us to perform miracles".

When questioned about the dairy owners' allegation of his charging money for medicines and treatment, he flatly denied. But when a villager standing nearby repeats the query, his cool gives way: "You are not competent to ask such questions".

However, Chaudhury Ram Phal swears by his 'gau' (cow) that he had paid Rs 100 to the doctor to feed glucose to his four sick buffaloes. Showing us empty bottles and some new ones, Hardayal said that on the refusal, he bought glucose worth Rs 5,000 from his own pocket. "That is how I have managed to save some of my buffaloes", he said.

In neighbouring Nangli the toll has not been as high. Dr Vinod Kumar informed that vaccination had begun in January and reached 6,468 by Wednesday. Yet there have been 22 official casualties. According to Dr Vinod Kumar, the migratory cattle are the basic reason for the disease. "If they (dairy owners) cooperate and immediately vaccinate all new arrivals the chances of the disease can be minimised".

BRIEFS

PASTEURELLOSIS, FOOT-AND-MOUTH--In the first 3 months of 1984 the veterinary section in Nasaithony District, Vientiane Capital, sent a number of veterinarian cadres to give vaccine to the people's livestock in different production bases. They completed giving the first set of pasteurellosis vaccine to 1,235 cattle and 504 buffalo, and also treated over 100 draft animals that had contracted hoof-and-mouth disease including 114 cattle and 54 buffalo. There was also news that in 1983 there was a total of 13,523 buffalo, 7,185 cattle, 4,226 pigs, over 100 sheep and goats, and over 72,000 poultry [in Nasaithong District]. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 23 Apr 84 p 1] 9884

PASTEURELLOSIS INNOCULATION--Since [the beginning of] 1984 the Agriculture, Irrigation, and Agricultural Co-op in Vientiane Capital has sent a number of veterinarian cadres to vaccinate, disseminate information, and provide guidance in techniques for keeping each type of the people's livestock in different production bases in order to guarantee a steady increase in draft labor and food supply. They gave pasteurellosis vaccine to 4,895 buffalo and cattle, hoof-and-mouth vaccine to 645 cattle and buffalo, and cholera vaccine to 698 pigs and a number of other animals. Now the veterinarian cadres are continuing to score achievements in the production bases for the coming 29th anniversary of the LPRP and the 9th anniversary of LPDR Day. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 18 Apr 84 p A6] 9884

VIENTIANE CAPITAL VETERINARY WORK--There was news from the Vientiane Capital Veterinary section that in order to ensure strong health for the livestock of people of ethnic groups throughout Vientiane Capital and to reduce different

diseases, in the first 3-month period of 1984 the Vientiane Capital Agriculture, Irrigation, and Agricultural Co-op section organized veterinarian cadres to go to different districts to propagandize, disseminate information, and guide the livestock owners in understanding new techniques of animal husbandry and also ways to prevent diseases and to maintain their health in order to guarantee adequate draft labor and food supply. The cadres also gave vaccine against diseases and epidemics, and treated the people's sick animals in the production base. Up to now 61,238 cattle, buffalo, pigs, etc. have been vaccinated. This includes 4,896 cattle and buffalo that were vaccinated with pasteurellosis, 645 with hoof-and-mouth vaccine, and 698 pigs with cholera vaccine. Now the cadres in this veterinary section are continuing to mobilize and guide the people who raise animals to help them to understand more about new and correct scientific techniques for animal husbandry and to do everything possible to facilitate and cooperate with the cadres who went there to vaccinate the animals in various wards and villages. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 10 Apr 84 pp 1, 4] 9884

CSO: 5400/4417

MEXICO

BRIEFS

CHIAPAS ANTIDENGUE CAMPAIGN--Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, 7 May--In order to control the spread of dengue, the Coordinated Public Health Services in Chiapas, in coordination with the local government, private enterprise and municipal governments today opened the second clean-up campaign to combat the spread of the vector insect. Dr Humberto Cordoba Cordero, chief of the Public Health Control Department of the branch office said that action has begun in four sectors of the city and that the public sanitation trucks will collect all cans likely to hold water and become breeding places for the infectious vector insects. The Health Department brigades will also visit residences to apply insecticides to the water storage tanks or containers. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 May 84 p 7-D] 9204

CSO: 5400/2069

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

ANTIRABIES DRIVE AT KAROI--The veterinary department in Karoi will carry out a rabies and anthrax vaccination programme in Urungwe District from Monday to Friday. The animal health inspector for the district, Cde Philemon Dzikiti, has appealed to all cattle and dog owners to bring their animals to their diptanks in time. [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 1 Jun 84 p.7]

CSO: 5400/142

POLAND

BRIEFS

COLORADO BEETLES ON SHIP--Colorado beetles have been found on a Polish vessel in Mantyluoto harbor in Pori [Finland]. The beetles, which attack potatoes, were discovered in the cargo of the ship "Lebork" last Thursday [7 June] morning. During the course of the day a few score of these insects were found. "Lebork" unloaded some of its cargo in Helsinki and Turku before continuing to Pori. The cargo includes raw materials for plastics making, as well as salt and steel wire. The unloading of "Lebork" will be completed on Friday [8 June] and after that it will be decided if the ship ought to be disinfected. Also a year ago a Polish ship with colorado beetles in its cargo called at Pori. The insects were able to spread to a few farms [before being eliminated]. [Text] [Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 8 Jun 84 p 3]

CSO: 5400/2532

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

HARMFUL INSECTS IN HAIPHONG--Haiphong Municipality has mobilized thousands of workers to work on ricefields to eradicate the stem borer and cotton leaf roller which have appeared in some areas and caused rice blast and brown leaf spot, especially on 5th-month spring and 10th-month ricefields. Various insecticide spray teams and more than 1,000 members of the vegetation protection sector have been trained to eradicate and control harmful insects for 165 agricultural cooperatives. [Summary] [BK301515 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 29 May 84]

PROVINCIAL AREAS AFFECTED BY INSECTS--Thanks to recent favorable weather, the winter-spring rice in many areas in the north is developing well. Rice plants in many localities are heading reasonably. The insect-affected rice area has also been reduced as a result of the local people's active fight against harmful insects. The current insect-affected rice area accounts for more than 25,000 hectares in Thanh Hoa, 22,000 hectares in Ha Nam Ninh, 19,000 hectares in Thai Binh, 17,000 hectares in Hai Hung, 11,000 hectares in Ha Bac, 10,000 hectares in Nghe Tinh, and 500 to 5,000 hectares in each of the other provinces. Localities are not concentrating every means on eradicating insects to save the rice plants. [OW051139 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 May 84]

CSO: 5400/4425

ZIMBABWE

BRIEFS

WORMS DESTROYING CROPS--The Department of Agricultural and Extension Services, Agritex, is worried about reports of worms destroying crops in the Siyoka communal land near Beitbridge, the district Agritex officer, Cde Jonathan Moyo, has said. According to communal farmers in the area the worms are destroying sorghum and inyauti in the whole of Siyoka area, from Msane in the east to Zezane in the west. Cde Moyo said his department had not yet identified the worms.--ZIS [Text] [Harare THE HERALD in English 30 May 84 p 7]

CSO: 5400/142

END